SUPPORT FOR THE PROPOSAL FOR THE USE OF THE PLENARY POWERS TO SUPPRESS THE GENERIC NAME "TYRANNULA" SWAINSON, 1827 (CLASS AVES)

By the

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ORNITHOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS

(Commission's reference Z.N.(S.)676)

(Letter, dated 22nd July 1952, from Colonel Richard Meinertzhagen, Chairman of the Standing Committee)

The Standing Committee on Ornithological Nomenclature appointed by the International Ornithological Congress has had under consideration an application submitted to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature by Dr. John T. Zimmer in which the Commission is asked to use its plenary powers for the purpose of securing the continued availability of the generic name Myiobius Darwin, 1839.

The Standing Committee are of the opinion that it would be highly undesirable that the well-known name Myiobius Darwin should be replaced by the name Tyrannula, 1827, and desire to support the proposal that, in order to prevent the confusion which would follow from the application of the normal rules in this case, the Commission should use its plenary powers in the manner proposed, that is, for the purpose of suppressing the name Tyrannula Swainson and for designating Muscicapa barbata Gmelin, 1788, to be the type species of Myiobius Darwin, 1839, thereby preserving that name for use in its accustomed sense.

The foregoing recommendation has the unanimous support of all the members of the Standing Committee, namely, J. Berlioz (Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris); Erwin Stresemann (Zoologisches Museum der Universität, Berlin); John T. Zimmer (The American Museum of Natural History, New York) (the applicant in the present case) and myself.